

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held its regular meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2014, in the Cabinet Room of the John G. Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr.; G. Patrick Heffernan; Randall L. Hughes, II; Barbara B. Rutt; Terry M. Whittaker and Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary and Secretary of Education. Donna R. Johnson, who serves as the State Board's Executive Director, was also present.

Also in attendance were Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education; David Blowman, Deputy Secretary of Education; Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary, Financial Reform and Resource Management; and Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary, Education Supports & Innovative Practices Branch.

Attending portions of the meeting in conjunction with agenda items: Riccardo Stoeckicht, Community Education Building, Maria Stecker, Community Education Building, Lea Wainwright, Delaware Teacher of the Year; Ron Faircloth, Campaign for Grade Level Reading; Mary Kate McLaughlin, and Jen Nagourney.

Also attending: Donna Mitchell, Professional Standards Board; G. Scott Reihm, Delaware Association of School Administrators; Deb Stevens, Delaware State Education Association; David Campbell, REL, Valarie Jones, Moyer Academy, Amber Cooper, Budget Office; Kendall Massett, Delaware charter School Network, John Cavanaugh, Johnson Controls; Mamie Doyle Mannella, Rodel Foundation, Catherine Nti, Innovative Schools, Denise Weiner, Carolyn Lazar, and Alison May.

### **Call to Order**

President Gray presided over the monthly meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. She welcomed all guests to the State Board's monthly public meeting.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The first order of business was approval of the agenda. Dr. Gray noted that the amendment to Regulation 275 concerning Charter Schools was listed as an action item on the published notice for this meeting. The Board was informed that the Department is not bringing this regulation forward this month but it would be presented for action in February. Therefore under Section 10004 of the Open Meetings law the agenda is being amended to remove Regulation 275 as an action item on the agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes: Nays:

Dr. Gray None.  
Mr. Melendez  
Mr. Coverdale  
Mr. Heffernan  
Mr. Hughes  
Mrs. Rutt  
Dr. Whittaker

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### Retreat Minutes, November 21-22, 2013

The Board received a copy of the retreat minutes prior to the meeting. Dr. Gray asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the minutes of the State Board's Retreat held on November 21-22, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes: Nays:

Dr. Gray None.  
Mr. Melendez  
Mr. Coverdale  
Mr. Heffernan  
Mr. Hughes  
Mrs. Rutt  
Dr. Whittaker

#### Regular Meeting – December 19, 2013

The Board received a copy of the regular meeting minutes prior to the meeting. Dr. Gray asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the minutes of the State Board regular meeting held on December 19, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:

Nays:

Dr. Gray  
Mr. Melendez  
Mr. Coverdale  
Mr. Heffernan  
Mr. Hughes  
Mrs. Rutt  
Dr. Whittaker

None.

### **Formal Public Comment**

It was indicated that this was the time the Board set aside for formal public comment. President Gray announced that no one had signed up to address the Board.

### **State Board Business**

#### **Committee Reports from State Board Members**

Mr. Hughes participated in meetings of the National Association of State Boards of Education as well as conversations with state board members in Idaho, New Mexico and Iowa regarding NASBE membership and services. He announced all public schools in the state have submitted their first response information in conjunction with Delaware's Omnibus School Safety program. The next phase of the program will be table top exercises in February and March. He also thanked Ms. Rogers and the Department for collaborating with several agencies on the funding for this initiative.

Dr. Gray noted that NASBE highlighted Delaware's school safety program in their recent publication noting how Delaware went from practice to policy and how we are the leading state in this initiative.

Mrs. Rutt continues to represent the State Board on the Gifted and Talented Task Force. Their reporting deadline is March 31, 2014. She also attended the Delaware School Boards Association's Board meeting. Discussion was on the different pieces of the evaluation system. Mrs. Rutt stated that over the holiday season she also attended many choral programs presented by our public schools and noted there is a great deal of talent in the state.

Mr. Heffernan convened a meeting of the Research Committee prior to the Board meeting and would provide a report later on the agenda.

Dr. Whittaker, Mr. Melendez and Mr. Coverdale reported on their monthly activities.

Ms. Johnson noted that her report was posted on eBoard and it also contained news items and articles of interest that are aligned to the State Board's strategic plan. She also announced that the State Board would be holding a workshop for local board members

and educational stakeholders on February 6<sup>th</sup> at Delaware State University. Dr. Joe Willhoft from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium will be in attendance. Ms. Johnson has also been working on the State Board's Literacy Campaign which Mr. Heffernan will address later.

Dr. Gray spoke at the professional development event at the University of Delaware, "Emphasizing the E in STEM." The intent of the program is to build a strong pipeline of young engineers. Dr. Gray also participated in the winter commencement of the University of Delaware noting how she enjoys starting each year with an event like this. Approximately 300 students received various degrees and ranged in age from 22 to 72.

### **Budget Items – Research Agenda**

Mr. Heffernan provided a brief highlight of the discussion of the Research Committee which discussed the new assessment to be implemented and best practice for measuring growth. The Research Committee has proposed to gather proposals to commission a report which would look at independent views and outside expertise on the best way to approach the implementation of calculating growth based upon the parameters of the SBAC developed assessment that would align with the growth measures established in the Academic Framework.

Also Research Committee also discussed the Board's literacy campaign which is an initiative of the Board this year that ties in with Common Core, Educator Preparation, Licensure, and Early Childhood Education Initiatives. The Research Committee is also looking at best practice on how to improve literacy instruction. Research may be done that reviews best practices for teaching reading as specifically outlined in Senate Bill 51 for teacher preparation. Mr. Heffernan stated that the Board's Literacy Campaign is posted on eBoard and encouraged everyone to review it; copies were also made available to attendees at the meeting.

Dr. Gray noted Mr. Heffernan's passion for literacy and the Board's commitment that all Delaware students are reading well by third grade and interventions to make sure they are on grade level. She explained that literacy is not just reading but includes comprehension, writing and numeracy and how it all ties together and leads to all subject areas.

Mr. Melendez noted that the Budget Committee also met to discuss funding the research requested and discussed by the State Board Research Committee.

### **Secretary's Report, Review and Discussion**

Secretary Murphy thanked the State Board for their partnership and noted his appreciation for all they do.

He noted a press release about an addendum to the Teacher Evaluation Report that was previously discussed a few months back. This addendum addresses administrators and Mr. Murphy noted that the report was available and Ms. Johnson noted was also linked in her Executive Director's report. He highlighted that 95% of Delaware's administrators were rated effective or highly effective with an increase focus on student achievement. He also noted that the Indian River School District is an example of a district doing strong work with how it evaluates its teachers and leaders.

Secretary Murphy spoke at the inaugural meeting of the new group, Commission on Early Childhood and the Economy. The group is co-led by Nick Marsini who is the chair of PNC Bank and Paul Harrell from the Department. The group is comprised of 22 business leaders and will continue the great work that is being done in the area of early childhood, birth to age five.

The Board was informed about Delaware's Dream Team which is a partnership between the Department and Learn Zillion. The team is comprised of 34 educators. They received professional development and will be building resources for Delaware teachers to use regarding CCSS implementation during the coming months.

Secretary Murphy concluded with an update on Component V of DPAS II as we transition to Smarter Balanced assessments. He stated that a memo was just sent from his office to all educators outlining this proposal. The proposal states that teachers will not use results from the Smarter Balanced assessment until 2015-2016 in their evaluation, but will receive the data as an informative measure. This means that what is currently in place will remain with the exception of one part of Component V for about 25% of Delaware teachers being removed. He also acknowledged that this proposal could not be in effect until several other steps occurred which include anticipated responses from USED regarding a waiver and policy shifts regarding the new assessment by the legislature and State Board.

### **Delaware Teacher of the Year**

Lea Wainwright, a French teacher at Appoquinimink High School, is Delaware's State Teacher of the Year for 2014. Ms. Wainwright, who began her teaching career in 1993, has taught at the middle school, high school and community college levels, working in both public and private schools. She spent about 12 of those years in the Appoquinimink School District. Her philosophy of teaching involves "helping students discover their purpose through a blending of proficiency-oriented approach (determining whether they can use the language to communicate) and a low-stress environment." She said she has high expectations for her students with real communication as the goal. Ms. Wainwright graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in French with a minor in business administration from the University of Delaware, and earned her master of education degree from Wilmington University. She is also a leader outside the classroom, including serving as a lead mentor for new teachers, participating on a state teacher advisory committee, helping develop statewide teacher evaluation measures, coaching lacrosse and volunteering in the community.

Ms. Wainwright provided brief comments noting that she was drawn to the Board's vision statement and she and the Board are kindred spirits. She also focused on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and global awareness and how a foreign language addresses both.

Dr. Gray presented Ms. Wainwright with the State Board's Order of Excellence and iPad cover. She also received a \$250 honorarium from the State Board. Secretary Murphy presented the Secretary's Merit Award. He noted she is a great ambassador for education.

### **Campaign for Grade Level Reading**

Dr. Gray introduced Ron Fairchild as an entrepreneur reader and can visualize strategies into action. Currently Mr. Fairchild is serving as founding president and CEO of Smarter Learning Group. He is also involved in the Campaign for Grade Level Reading.

Ms. Johnson noted that the release of the State Board's literacy campaign and Mr. Fairchild's presentation both deal with the fourth pillar of the campaign which is communication and community involvement.

Mr. Fairchild stated that he was happy to be in Delaware and complimented the state for its collaborations and the involvement of the Governor in the importance of early learning. He stated that Governor Markell made the comment at a conference that if you wanted to address third grade reading you just can't start at third grade. Mr. Fairchild highlighted that the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading by the Third Grade is an effort across the nation to ensure that more low-income children succeed in school and graduate prepared for college, a career and active citizenship. One of the main predictors for this success is grade level reading by the end of the third grade. Programs are currently in place in 140 communities representing 37 states and in 1600 local organizations. Communities are stepping up and assuming a role in this area. Mr. Fairchild stated that if you start a program in the community, you will get the public and interest of the people in that community involved. These places can also assist in summer reading loss which according to research is a huge problem area. Even the best schools can struggle if students show up for Kindergarten and are not ready and schools also struggle with students that have frequent absences. Mr. Fairchild stated that these are the three problem areas that have an impact on a student's reading. Communities can see they can have an impact in these areas.

There was discussion by members of the Board with Mr. Fairchild on starting these campaigns in the community. Mr. Fairchild explained that middle income families can afford the summer camps and enrichment opportunities but these experiences can be offered to lower income students through libraries and museums. He provided examples of summer learning practices in Boston, Pittsburgh and Jacksonville. Communities in these areas are making progress. Schools can provide students with information on these opportunities and assist in signing them up.

Mr. Fairchild stated that even if students sign up for a summer reading program at a library can help with the summer reading loss issue that affects many students. Some students need other support, not all students just need enrichment. There was also discussion by the Board on how students would need transportation to attend.

Mr. Melendez highlighted the workshop the Board has in December on summer learning and the difference between summer learning and summer school. Ms. Johnson noted that there are some programs out there offered by districts, charter school and nonprofit organizations but the Board is looking for a much more concerted and broader effort. Dr. Gray stated that this initiative is directly aligned with the SBE's literacy campaign and this type of community involvement helping to raise the sense of urgency for the issue is a core component of that the Board's initiative.

The Board recessed at 2:30 p.m. and returned at 2:39 p.m.

### **Community Education Building**

Riccardo Stoeckicht, President of the Community Education Building presented plans for the CEB in Wilmington which will open next school year. The CEB building is a private operating foundation and also received private funding. The mission of the CEB is that students attending school in the building will help close the urban achievement gap and also prepare students for success in college and careers. Mr. Stoeckicht stated that there is a 20% urban achievement gap in Wilmington and the CEB wants to create a world class K-12 environment that also allows school leaders to focus on teaching instead of administration. The Board was provided with the process of how schools are selected to be housed in the CEB building as well as pictures of inside the building. The nine story building will house up to four schools and provide shared school support and health services as well as a playground and cafeteria. The school does not have a gym or auditorium but plans to lease space for the schools to use. Tenants moving to the CEB on July 1, 2014 will be Kuumba Academy and Academia Antonia Alonso.

### **Accountability and ESEA Update**

Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary of Education Supports and Innovative Practices, provided an update on the State's extension submission to the U.S. Department of Education regarding the ESEA Flexibility initially approved in 2012.

Dr. Haberstroh noted that federal U.S. guidance recently changed the extension submission to one year. She also highlighted how the Department will respond to the U.S. DOE Part B monitoring for focus schools and other Title I schools and recommendations to strengthen implementation. The Department is also required to address the changes to the educator evaluation system that departs from what was originally submitted and approved. The Department has proposed draft language for an addition to Principle 3, Supporting Effective Instruction and Leadership. With the transition to the Smarter Balanced assessment, the Department will modify the



implementation of Component 5 which will continue to include multiple measures for student growth and student development. Smarter Balanced results will be used as an “informative measure” of student growth in 2014-2015. Individual educator reports will be provided to the educators who teach ELA and math in the tested grades. Those results will also be publicly reported in the aggregate. For 2015-2016, the Smarter Balanced assessment will be fully incorporated as one of the multiple measures of student growth within Component 5.

Secretary Murphy noted that it seemed very complicated but many considerations were part of these decisions after many months of conversations. The evaluation system and Component 5 were based on certain things and this holds true to maintain those values. Dr. Haberstroh commented that if the U.S. Department of Education does not approve the extension the State would revert back to No Child Left Behind requirements. It is expected to hear back from the U.S. Department of Education before June.

There was discussion on other Title 1 schools that did not fall into these categories. Dr. Haberstroh did state that Title 1 schools that miss the target in the same area for two years the school must submit a plan that will address its plan to remedy the issue. Mr. Heffernan asked for clarification on impact for students with disabilities, their transition and ELL students with the ESEA waiver. Dr. Haberstroh noted that the ESEA flexibility waiver touches on many aspects of the Department’s work but does not touch every federal program. There was also discussion on community outreach. The Board was asked to contact Dr. Haberstroh if they had any subsequent questions.

### **Enrollment Report Nonpublic Schools in Delaware, 2013-2014**

It was noted that this report was an information item and is available for review on the Department’s website.

### **Department of Education Regulations**

Dr. Susan Haberstroh presented the Department’s regulations.

### **Regulation 502 Curriculum Alignment**

This regulation was presented to the State Board as an information item as it only requires the approval of the Secretary of Education.

### **Charter Schools**

Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director of the Charter Schools Office presented the charter school items.



### Update on New Charter Applications and Major Modifications

The Department received eight new applications for charter schools. After review, Ms. Nagourney stated that five of those applications have been determined to be complete and will forward in the process. The Board received a spreadsheet snapshot of the applications. The schools moving forward in the application review process include: Delaware STEM, Freire Charter School, Great Oaks, Mapleton and Pike Creek. The Board also received the timeline for the new applications that lists meetings of the Charter School Accountability Committee and public hearings. Action by the State Board is scheduled for the Board's April meeting. Ms. Johnson noted a change from previous years in that the first public hearing is prior to the first report of the Charter School Accountability Committee and a public hearing is also scheduled after the final report of the CSAC. One public hearing will take place in the county in which the school is proposing to locate and the second hearing will occur in Dover.

Ms. Nagourney stated that only one major modification was received and that was from New Moyer for an enrollment change. Two minor modifications were received -- one from New Moyer for a name change and for First State Montessori for an enrollment change.

It was noted that enrollment changes become a major modification when the requested change is over 15% of the current enrollment. The Board asked what the new name requested was for New Moyer and Ms. Nagourney indicated she would have to check. The Board also asked about the curriculum and the response was that the curriculum was not part of the modification. Ms. Johnson noted that minor modifications require only the approval of the Secretary of Education and that the name change would not come before the Board for action.

Mary Kate McLaughlin, Chief of Staff of the Department, stated that previously New Moyer submitted the enrollment change and curriculum together but that is not a requirement. This request for enrollment modification is for a decrease.

### Monthly Charter Schools Update

Ms. Nagourney stated that work on the charter contract template is underway. She is working with a consultant on design. The Charter Office is also in the process of filling a vacancy and hopes to have it filled by March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Heffernan asked if there was any update on Reach Academy. Ms. Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the Department, noted what she could provide. She stated that Reach has filed a complaint against the Department on several different bases on why their charter renewal should have been approved. The briefings were expedited an injunction filed. The Court did find that there was likelihood of success on one claim and the school was granted a one year extension to its charter. Now that claim will be more formally addressed. All other claims have been dismissed.

Ms. Nagourney did follow up on a question that was raised last month. She noted that there was not enough research currently available on charter school alternative school evaluation tools and that many states have different definitions and systems for alternative education than Delaware which makes such comparisons extremely challenging.

### **Professional Standards Board**

Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director of the Professional Standards Board presented the PSB agenda items.

#### Regulation 1517 Paraeducator Permit (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1517 Paraeducator Permit. The regulation applies to the issuance of a Paraeducator Permit, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1205. It is necessary to amend this regulation in order to update and clarify some of the definitions, requirements and to update the application procedures. This regulation will be presented for action at a future Board meeting.

She provided data to the State Board that she received from HR directors in districts on paraeducators. The permit would add \$662 in annual salary supplement for each paraeducator with the extra education that is proposed. Districts have expected this increase and statistics show that districts are already paying paraeducators for the permit. Thus there is no real fiscal impact on districts. She noted that all but 8 paraeducators possess the permit. Should a paraeducator let their permit expire they would then have to meet the additional requirements.

#### Review Recommendations for Applications for 1595 (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board presents the following recommendation on an application of Principal Preparation Program as specified in Regulation 1595 for consideration by the State Board of Education. The State Board's recommendation on the approval or denial of such application will be provided to the Secretary of Education along with the Standards Board's recommendation for final approval.

Pursuant to 14 DE Admin Code 1595, the Professional Standards Board is submitting the following recommendation on the application for "A School Principal Certification Program."

Dr. Mitchell noted that this is the first time for this process. Applications go through the License, Certification and Criteria Subcommittee of the Professional Standards Board who review applications first. They spend a great deal of time reviewing the application in depth and comparing it to regulations and a rubric. Comments and feedback are provided to the Professional Standards Board prior to their vote. The comments and

feedback could become special considerations for the application or conditions of approval. Applications are then submitted to the Secretary of Education for final approval. The State Board must also make a recommendation to the Secretary.

Dr. Mitchell stated that this program is in its third cohort of the pilot. There are nine sections that are reviewed and special considerations were made in four of the areas. Comments were based on timing and notifications and Dr. Mitchell provided brief comments on each of the four areas that were noted.

### **Certification Programs for Leaders in Education**

**14 DE Admin.Code1595**

**Application Approval Procedure**

**Recommendations by Professional Standards Board**

**Application Type: School Principal Certification Program**

**Applicant: Innovative Schools: Delaware Leadership Project (DLP)**

**Review for Completeness by PSB Designee: Donna Mitchell,  
December 17, 2013**

**Application Submitted to Secretary of Education/License and  
Certification Criteria Committee: December 18, 2013**

**Review by LCCC: December 18, 2013 & January 8, 2014**

**PSB Recommendations decided January 9, 2014 and sent to Secretary of  
Education/SBE on January 13, 2014**

Pursuant to 14 DE Admin Code 1595, the Professional Standards Board submits the following recommendation on the application for A School Principal Certification Program.

On January 9, 2014, after review of the application and the comments and recommendation for approval from the PSB License and Certification Criteria Committee (LCCC), the Professional Standards Board made the following recommendation for the application listed above:

### **Recommend for Approval**

**2 Cohorts**

**No Conditions**

<b>Application Section</b>	<b>Special Considerations</b>
<b>2-LEA &amp; Program Partnerships</b>	It was noted that the Principal Mentor identification and training could be strengthened by changing the timeline. Based on the documents submitted, the timeline provides initial training of the Principal Mentor after the residency has begun. It appears that the program could be improved by having training or preparation for principals prior to the start of the residency placement. During public comment Mr. Sheppard from Innovative Schools noted that the timing was purposeful and part of the program design and replication.

<b>6-Faculty, Instructors and Mentors</b>	It was noted that based on the evaluation information provided when the effectiveness rating of the resident after completion of the novice leader period showed evidence that the rating was impacted by the mentor or coach, the program could be strengthened by adding support services to the resident during the 2 year coaching period..
<b>7-Organization, Governance and Resources</b>	It was noted that there could be some reduction in participation due to the change in in the LEA funding responsibility.
<b>9-Program Assessment &amp; Evaluation</b>	It was noted that program evaluation analysis could be improved by modifying the survey data (principal mentor, partner, resident, coaches) to identify each as separate data point.

Ms. Johnson provided clarification by providing the Board members with the highlights of the regulation. This is the first application under Regulation 1595 submitted. A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt that the State Board recommends to Secretary Murphy approval of the application for two cohorts along with the Professional Standards Board's recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Mrs. Rutt		
Dr. Whittaker		

Secretary Murphy noted that this is the first time for this process and he appreciated the time of the Professional Standards Board and its subcommittee to review the application thoroughly.

### **Appeals and Reviews**

Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board, provided the Board with an update on two appeals. One appeal was remanded due to no transcript by the charter school of the hearing at that level. The other appeal was an appeal that was remanded and the hearing has been held again at the local level and the Board has received an appeal of that decision.

January 16, 2014

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary  
and Secretary of Education

An audio of the entire meeting is available on the State Board's website at:  
<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/ddoe/sbe/default.shtml>